



# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

101 N. 14TH STREET, 17<sup>TH</sup> FL.  
RICHMOND VA 23219

*Air Force Association  
American Legion  
AMVETS  
Association of the United  
States Army  
Disabled American  
Veterans  
Fifth Baptist Veterans  
Ministry  
Fleet Reserve Association  
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans  
of America  
Korean War Veterans  
Association  
Legion of Valor of the  
U.S., Inc.  
Marine Corps League  
Military Order of the  
Purple Heart  
Military Officers Association  
of America  
Military Order of the  
World Wars  
Navy Mutual Aid Association  
Navy Seabee Veterans of  
America  
Non-Commissioned  
Officers Association  
Paralyzed Veterans of  
America  
Reserve Officers Association  
Roanoke Valley Veterans  
Council  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Virginia Army/Air National  
Guard Enlisted  
Association  
Virginia National Guard  
Association  
Women Marines Association*

July 24, 2019

Governor Ralph S. Northam  
Patrick Henry Building  
1111 E. Broad St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219

On behalf of the Joint Leadership Council, I write to share that we have been briefed on the funding necessary to open and operate our two new veterans care centers – the **Puller Veterans Care Center** and the **Jones & Cabacoy Veterans Care Center** – and we recommend this funding should be part of your introduced biennial budget for FY2021-22 to show the continued, strong support for this project begun by Governor McAuliffe and Delegate Kirk Cox and the General Assembly.

The JLC dedicated policy initiative papers in 2015 (2015-06) to provide the funding necessary to ensure the continued commitment of the Commonwealth of Virginia with the construction of veterans care centers in Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia, and provided “ground support” for Delegate Cox and former Senator Puller, who were the legislative patrons. In 2016, (2016-01) the JLC made it our top priority to approval additional state bond funding in the biennial budget to allow for the construction of both centers. And again, we worked closely with the Governor and General Assembly to accomplish this goal.

The JLC has always, and will continue to, support our commonwealth-run veterans care centers. Virginia’s veterans care centers deliver skilled nursing, Alzheimer’s/ dementia care, and short-term rehabilitation, to Virginia veterans. This is vital to support our veterans and their families.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this critical funding.

Sincerely,

Frank G. Wickersham, III  
Chairman  
MOAA Representative

cc: Secretary Carlos Hopkins

